



PRIMATE EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

ABSTRACT

A purified preparation of primate embryonic stem cells is disclosed. This preparation is characterized
5 by the following cell surface markers: SSEA-1 (-);
SSEA-3 (+); SSEA-4 (+); TRA-1-60 (+); TRA-1-81 (+); and
alkaline phosphatase (+). In a particularly
advantageous embodiment, the cells of the preparation
have normal karyotypes and continue to proliferate in
10 an undifferentiated state after continuous culture for
eleven months. The embryonic stem cell lines also
retain the ability, throughout the culture, to form
trophoblast and to differentiate into all tissues
derived from all three embryonic germ layers (endoderm,
15 mesoderm and ectoderm). A method for isolating a
primate embryonic stem cell line is also disclosed.